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INVENTION NAME: THE WHISTLER'S BEST FRIEND
APPLICATION NUMBER: 09/810,773

(f) BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION. The Whistler's Best Friend is an accessory device to a common tea kettle (4). Its design is primarily for the heating of milk, for use with latte type coffees, but also has utility in heating or re-heating gravies, soups or other liquids. It consists of a holed, tapered rubber stopper (2), through which passes a length of metal tubing (1), with a bend to facilitate downward discharge of steam (5). The stopper (2), with tubing (1), is placed in the exhaust spout (3) of a steam producing pot (4), i.e., common tea kettle. The exiting steam (5), is then vented through the metal tubing (1). The discharge end of the metal tube (11), is placed into a cup, pot or other vessel (7), containing a substance to be heated (9), i.e., milk, cream, etc.. This invention is easily used, cleaned and stored, in stark contrast to the steam producing devices previously used, i.e., steam pot and exhaust port of an espresso machine.

(g) BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWING(S). In Figure 1A, the invention is shown from a side angle in an assembled condition, with a bent metal tube (1), placed through a centered hole in a tapered rubber stopper (2). In Figure 1B, the invention is shown placed into the pouring spout (3), of a common tea kettle (4). In Figure 1C, the steam (5), produced by the heated water (6), is dispersed through the metal tube (1), into a separate receptacle (7), where heat transfer (8), occurs to the substance (9), in the secondary receptacle (7). Figure 1D, illustrates the detailed features of the Tapered Rubber Stopper (2).

1 – Metal Tube
2 – Tapered Rubber Stopper w/centered hole
2a – Wide side of Tapered Rubber Stopper (2).
2b – Narrow side of Tapered Rubber Stopper (2).
2c – Centered Hole of Tapered Rubber Stopper (2).
3 – Pouring Spout
4 – Tea Kettle
5 – Steam
6 – Water
7 – Receiving Cup
8 – Steam introduced to Liquid in Receiving Cup (7)
9 – Liquid to be heated in Receiving Cup (7)
10 – Induction end of Metal Tube (1)
11 – Discharge end of Metal Tube (1)

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(h) DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION. The invention is assembled using two simple components. The first component is a tapered rubber stopper (2), with a centered hole (2c). The second is a length of metal tubing (1), with an inside bend of approximately 60 degrees 2 inches from one end. The short side of the metal tubing (1), outside of the radius of the bend is pushed through the centered hole (2c), of the tapered rubber stopper (2), passing from the wider side (2a), of the tapered rubber stopper (2), until it protrudes ¼ inch from the centered hole (2c), of the narrow side (2b), of the tapered rubber stopper (2). This completes the assembly. With only ¼ inch protruding when the device is inserted into the spout (3), of the steam producing pot (4), it will not go below the water level and will therefore only pass steam (5), and not water (6). For use, the narrow end (2b), of the tapered rubber stopper (2), is placed into the pouring spout (3), of a common tea kettle (4). When inserted into the spout the device is positioned so that the long part of the tube is angled downward thus allowing a downward discharge of the steam (5). The steam (5), produced by the heated water (6), in the tea kettle (4), is then redirected out through the metal tube (2). A secondary vessel (7), with a substance (9), to be heated, by the redirected steam is then placed under the discharge end (11), of the metal tube (1).